



# City of Atlanta Solicitor's Office

**OFFICE OF THE CITY SOLICITOR**

**FY20 – 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER UPDATE**

**Presentation to Public Safety and Legal Administration Committee**

**April 27, 2020**

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Raines F. Carter  
City Solicitor



# OFFICE OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

❖ **JUDICIAL IN REM/NUISANCE ABATEMENT**

❖ **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

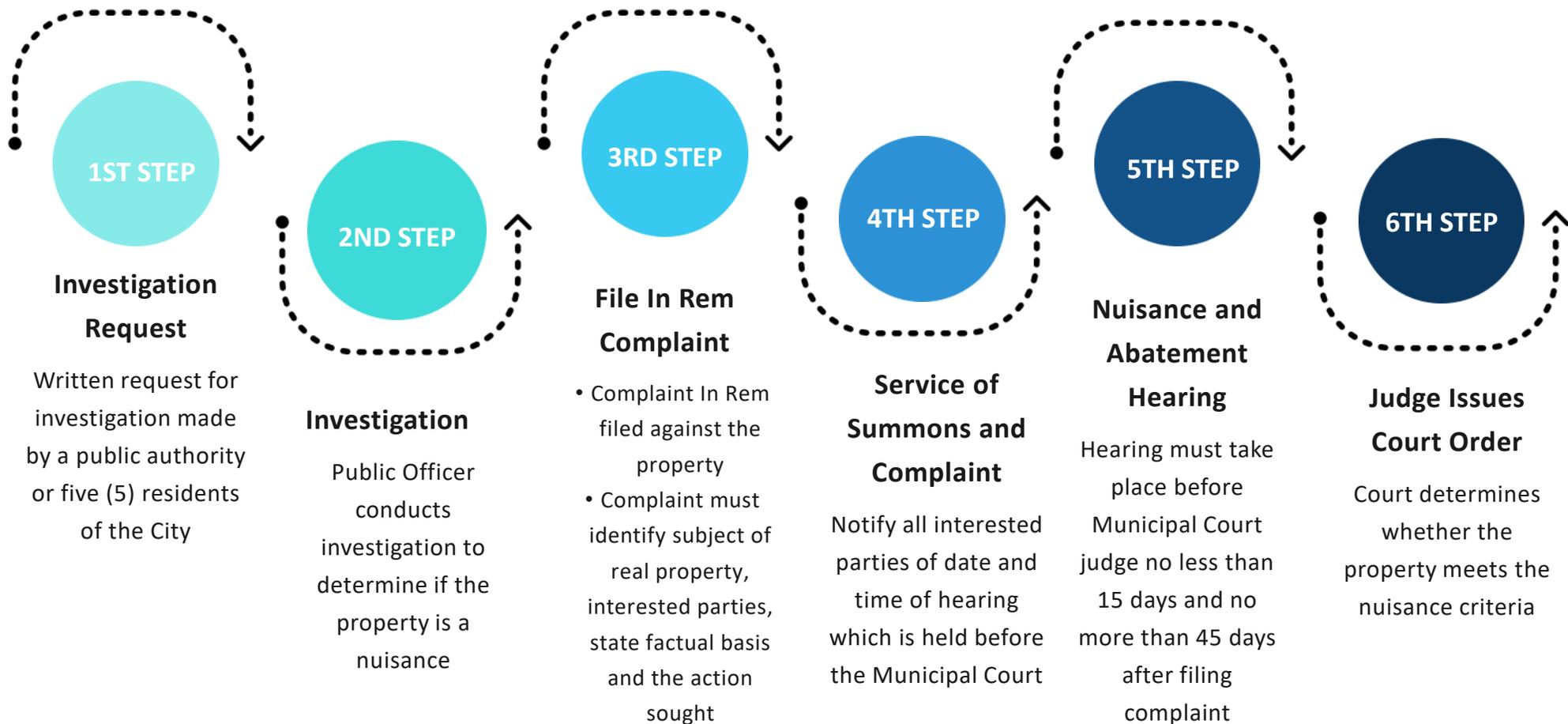


# JUDICIAL IN REM/ NUISANCE ABATEMENT

- ❖ Atlanta Code § 4-102(2) provides that the municipal court has the jurisdiction and power coextensive with the territorial limits of the city to try, hear, and abate nuisances as provided by the laws of this state.
- ❖ O.C.G.A. § 41-2-7 states that power is conferred upon the municipality to exercise its police power to repair, close, or demolish dwellings, buildings or structures that are found unfit for human habitation or commercial use.



# JUDICIAL IN REM/ NUISANCE ABATEMENT





# JUDICIAL IN REM/ NUISANCE ABATEMENT

## **FY 2020- Status of Current Actions**

- ❖ Since the start of FY20 the City Solicitor's Office has filed five (5) Nuisance Abatement Actions.
- ❖ The Municipal Court Judge has issued three (3) court orders in which the property was declared a nuisance, one of which an appeal has been filed.
- ❖ There is one (1) Nuisance Abatement Action that is currently awaiting Court Order.
- ❖ The City Solicitor's Office is collaborating with Code Enforcement to resolve Nuisance Abatement Matters.
- ❖ The Solicitor's Office has received over 178 properties from Code Enforcement for Nuisance Abatement , out of those properties, reviewed it is determined that 51 are ready for actions to be filed.



# COMMUNITY PROSECUTION UPDATE

The Office of the City Solicitor designates Assistant Solicitors as Community Prosecutors. The prosecutors solve public safety problems using a community based approach. They partner with residents and law enforcement agencies to identify the unique issues plaguing the community to prevent crime with an emphasis on multi-family dwellings. The aim is to work directly in the neighborhoods and develop relationships with local groups and align code enforcement priorities with residents' public safety concerns.

Strategic efforts include partnering solicitors as a team with Zone Commanders, Quality of Life Officers, Code Enforcement Officers, and Fire Inspectors from Atlanta Fire-Rescue. The Community Prosecution Teams are assigned by City of Atlanta police zones. The table below outlines the assignments of each of attorneys and their assigned Zones and NPU's.

<b><u>ZONE 1</u></b> <b>NPU: G,J,K,L</b>	<b><u>ZONE 2</u></b> <b>NPU: A,B,C,D</b>	<b><u>ZONE 3</u></b> <b>NPU: V,X,Y,Z</b>	<b><u>ZONE 4</u></b> <b>NPU: H,I,P,Q,R,S, T</b>	<b><u>ZONE 5</u></b> <b>NPU: E,M</b>	<b><u>ZONE 6</u></b> <b>NPU: N,O,W, F</b>
<b>ATTORNEYS</b> Ajia Burris (*TL)- G,L Kiera Potter - J Jacob Daughtry, II- K	<b>ATTORNEYS</b> Sharon Dickson(*TL)A,D Hala Carey- B Bre'Anna Brown- C	<b>ATTORNEYS</b> Courtney Williams(*TL)- X Chianti Hatchett- Z Traci Watson- V Prentecia Floyd- Y	<b>ATTORNEYS</b> Erika Smith (*TL)- H,I, P Luther Dennis- Q,T Jameekia Davis- S Warren Atkinson- R	<b>ATTORNEYS</b> Stephanie Cross(*TL)-E Brittany Prescott-M	<b>ATTORNEYS</b> Andrew Hughes (*TL)-F Stephone Johnson-N Fatima Henson- O Faren Jennings-W



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

## **STUDENT OUTREACH AND RESOURCE (S.O.A.R.)**

### **Internet Safety\***

The Solicitor's Office partnered with King Middle School on February 2, 2020 and presented safety tips on internet safety during Parents Night. Internet Safety has been a challenge with middle and high school students on social media. This presentation educated and engaged parents on safety tips to look out for with their kids and social media. School specifically requested safety tips regarding Instagram be addressed.

### **Career Motivation Week\***

The Solicitor's Office partnered with Dunbar Elementary School on February 4, 2020 and King Middle School on February 6, 2020 for Career Day. It was the perfect occasion for school kids of all ages to explore their dreams and understand the role professions have in our society. It was designed to generate excitement in students about possible careers they might choose as well as the importance of staying in school and getting good grades now. Schools would like to expose students to as many job/opportunities as possible.

### **Read Across America\***

Peyton Forest Elementary hosts Read Across America, a national annual reading, motivation, and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading. This is accomplished with the help of community support. The Solicitor's Office supported this effort and read to several 3rd and 4th grade classes enriching the lives of over 100 children on March 1, 2019 at Peyton Forest Elementary School.

### **Police Athletic League(PALs) Baskets and Badges\***

The Solicitor's Office partnered with the Police Athletic League to host a basketball tournament for youth ages 7-16 on February 17, 2020. The event was planned to give kids alternative activity while establishing a healthy rapport with law enforcement. The event was held at Anderson Recreation Center.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

## **Colleges and Universities Public Safety Fair**

The Solicitor's Office partners with Colleges and Universities to disseminate information to promote public safety. The Solicitor Office disseminated public safety information regarding safe driving, DUI, Pretrial Diversion programs and more on September 17, 2019 at Georgia State and on January 16, 2020 at Clark Atlanta University.

## **New Horizon Senior Center**

The Solicitor's Office supported the Westside Future Fund and answered the call for volunteers to assist interaction with seniors by calling bingo, helping seniors to get set up at their tables to play games, serving lunch, and making sure the seniors were set for the day's activities. The event was held on February 28, 2020 at New Horizon Senior Center.

## **Code Enforcement Academy**

The Solicitor's Office partners with City of Atlanta Code Enforcement Commission and Councilmember Joyce Sheperd in hosting the Code Enforcement Academy. The academy consists of a series of 5 sessions to help Atlanta residents learn how to report blight in their respective communities and serve as community ambassadors. This event was scheduled for March 28, 2020, reschedule date and location to be determined. be determined.

# COMMUNITY PROSECUTION OUTREACH PARTNERS FOR Q3

## WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER CITY



City of Atlanta  
Code Enforcement

